

LOYOLA OF MONTREAL

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HOME OF THE WARRIORS

DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND ATHLETICS

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CENTENNIAL HOCKEY TOURNAMENT PARTICIPANTS ANNOUNCED

Five Quebec teams, one from Ontario and two from the U.S. have been chosen to participate in Canada's major holiday intercollegiate event, The Third Annual Centennial Hockey Tournament at the Forum January 3, 4 and 5. The announcement was made at a Loyola press conference yesterday.

Boston College has been selected to represent Eastern United States. They not only have compiled an impressive N.C.A.A. record but have accomplished it with a non-import or no-Canadian recruiting policy. All members of their squad are pure home bred and their outstanding play typifies the vast improvement the U.S. boys have made in amateur hockey in recent years.

"There is no doubt about it, the American boys on Boston College's squad are outstanding. They have handled the best Canadian Colleges have been able to offer on their own home ice playing under restrictive N.C.A.A. rules but we feel that it will be an entirely different story when they have to play here against our boys," commented a Canadian College Official at the press conference.

University of Toronto Blues, one of the perennial champs in Canadian College Hockey and winners of the Forum Tournament both years it has been held are the Ontario entrants.

Four local squads will head the Quebec delegation, McGill, Sir George Williams, Université de Montréal and the host the powerful Loyola Warriors. The fifth is Laval Université de Québec. Laval is making its second appearance in the tournament and was invited because of its fine showing and undefeated record in both CQAA and Coupe de Québec competition so far this season.

The possible eighth entry which would represent the mid-western United States is Michigan Tech, who has been ranked one of the top three teams in the NCAA western conference over the past five years.

At Michigan Tech hockey is the sport. As an indication of the emphasis they put on the ice sport and of how strong the Tech squad is they have three of their alumni active in the National Hockey League, Lou Agnotti of Pittsburgh Penguins, Minnesota North Star netminder Gary Bowran and Canadiens rookie goalie Tony Esposito. Loyola Coach Dave Draper is also an alumnus.

A final decision will be made on the Michigan entry by next Tuesday at a Forum press conference at which time the pairings will be announced.

Teams will play for the coveted Centennial Cup which was donated by Canadian Arena Company President J. David Holson who has been a keen supporter of the tournament since its inauguration. The tournament was initiated as part of the Canadian Centennial Celebrations in 1967 with all Canadians being encouraged to perpetuate the Spirit of Centennial, it was continued over the last two years.

Toronto walked away with the cup two years ago defeating University of Alberta in the finals. Last year the Blues had better competition. They won it again but were hard pressed to beat the Warriors 4-3 in the championship match.

If the festivities on and off the ice in the last two tournaments are indicative of what to expect in this year's tournament local college hockey fans are in for an exciting three day binge.

All championship round games will be staged at the Montreal Forum with two afternoon games on Friday January 3 at 1:30 p.m. and two more at night commencing at 7:30 p.m. On Saturday evening the semi final rounds will be played at 7:30 p.m. and 9:30 p.m. Sunday the big championship game is scheduled for 2:00 p.m.

Presiding at yesterday's Press Conference at Loyola were Athletic Director Ed Enos, Father Gerard McDonough, Dean of Students and Hockey Coach Dave Draper along with Floyd Curry representing David Molson of the Canadian Arena Company and Coaches Brian Gilmour of McGill, Dave Dies of Sir George and Andre Huneault of Université de Montreal.